Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

- 1. (Currently Amended) A method of <u>reducing breast density</u> treatment, comprising administering 4-hydroxy tamoxifen percutaneously to a patient having <u>class III or class IV</u> dense breast <u>composition</u> tissue.
- 2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said dense breast tissue is diffuse.
- 3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said dense breast tissue is nodular.
- 4. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is in a vehicle containing a penetration enhancer.
- 5. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is a racemic blend of *trans* and *cis* isomers.
- 6. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is a *trans* isomer.
- 7. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein greater than about 0.5 mg/breast of said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is administered per day.
- 8. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein greater than about 0.75 mg/breast of said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is administered per day.
- 9. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein greater than about 1.0 mg/breast of said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is administered per day.
- 10. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is formulated in a hydroalcoholic gel.
- 11. (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein said hydroalcoholic gel comprises ethyl alcohol, isopropyl myristate, and hydroxypropylcellulose.

- 12. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is formulated in an alcoholic solution.
- 13. (New) A method of diagnosing breast disease, comprising performing mammography on a patient having dense breast composition, wherein said patient has been percutaneously administered 4-hydroxy tamoxifen.
- 14. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is in a vehicle containing a penetration enhancer.
- 15. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is a racemic blend of *trans* and *cis* isomers.
- 16. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is a *trans* isomer.
- 17. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein greater than about 0.5 mg/breast of said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen has been administered per day.
- 18. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein greater than about 0.75 mg/breast of said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen has been administered per day.
- 19. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein greater than about 1.0 mg/breast of said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen has been administered per day.
- 20. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein said 4-hydroxy tamoxifen is formulated in a hydroalcoholic gel.
- 21. (New) A method according to claim 20, wherein said hydroalcoholic gel comprises ethyl alcohol, isopropyl myristate, and hydroxypropylcellulose.
- 22. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein said patient has class III or class IV dense breast composition.